One day in 1754 on a farm in Virginia's Appalachian Mountains...

Todd your fire, settlers! I am George Washington. Can my men camp here tonight? We are on our way to attack the French Fort Duquesne on the Ohio River.

Oh, no - Indian attack!

Good! Those French fur traders are running all over our Ohio Valley! And their Indian friends attack settlers.


Of course, you realize this means war!

Washington is 22 years old, leading 150 men. He prepares for a counter-attack by building Fort Necessity in Great Meadows, Pennsylvania, about 1000 French and Indians force his surrender in July.

Next: Gen. Brad Duck!
HOW DID WASHINGTON LEARN WARFARE?

In 1755, Britain and France are fighting to see who will control the Ohio River Valley. Britain sends General Edward Braddock to throw the French out of Fort Duquesne on the Ohio River.

SIR, I MUST REPEAT MY CONCERN ABOUT THE ORDER OF THIS MARCH.

PIPE DOWN, GEORGE WASHINGTON! YOU VOLUNTEERED TO LEARN HOW TO BE A SOLDIER, SO OBSERVE NOW A TRUE ARMY'S NEXT ORDER.

SURPRISING FRENCH AND INDIAN AMONG THE BRITISH REDCOATS.

RE-FORM! DO NOT THINK! WE'VE MOVE TO...

WHERE ARE THEY? I CANNOT SEE THEM HIDING IN THE WOODS!

This attack on July 12, 1755, kills or wounds about 1000 British troops. Braddock dies.

FRENCH SOLDIERS CAPTURE BRADDOCK'S MASTER PLAN FOR THE WAR. THEY MOVE QUICKLY TO STOP AMERICAN COLONISTS FROM TAKING FRENCH COATS IN NEW YORK.

GEORGE... YOU CAN SAY, "I TOLD YOU SO!"

I TOLD YOU SO.

GEORGE... YOU CAN SAY, "I TOLD YOU SO!"

WE'RE DOING FINE WITHOUT THE BRITISH REDCOATS. WHY SHOULD WE DEPEND ON THEM FOR PROTECTION?

Next: It's The Pitts
France and Britain have picked at each other in North America for a long time. Finally, in 1756, Britain officially declares it a war.

British Prime Minister William Pitt says, "We'll spend whatever it costs to win." The key to France's colonies is the St. Lawrence River in the north.

In 1759, the British attack Fort Louisbourg near the St. Lawrence.

In August 1758, the British and American colonists capture Fort Frontenac, protecting Canada.

If you stop helping the French, we will make British settlers stay east of the Allegheny Mountains.

Without supplies or Indian help, the French leave Fort Duquesne in Pennsylvania. George Washington finally captures the fort he was sent to claim in 1754.

Next: Québec
HOW DID BRITAIN WIN THE WAR?

The biggest battle of the French and Indian War happens in Quebec, Canada.

If we are going to control North America, we must drive the French out of their capital city!

As other British warships fire on Quebec to annoy the French...

Out, Alors!

...4000 British sergents sneak up a nearby 150-foot cliff.

The French general, the Marquis de Montcalm, rushes 5000 men onto the Plains of Abraham to defend Quebec.

You worried? Next I am Montcalm.

The French charge. British soldiers wait until the French are 40 yards away then fire guns they have loaded with musket balls. The French army is destroyed in 15 minutes.

The British capture Montreal and Fort Detroit in 1760. The major fighting of the French and Indian war is over. Britain has won!

...or HAS it? Next!

BRITAIN TAKES OVER FRANCE'S COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA... AND ITS FRONTIER FORTS!

WE STOPPED HELPING THE FRENCH BECAUSE YOU PROMISED TO KEEP OUT OF THE OHIO VALLEY! GET OUTTA HERE!!

Chief Pontiac leaders native DELAWARES AND OTHER INDIAN TRIBES AGAINST SETTLERS, HUNTING FUR BY CARRYING MANY OF THE SETTLERS FOR.

OKIO! FOR PONTIAC, I WILL PROCLAIM THE PROCLAMATION LINE OF '63.

NO ENGLISH-SPEAKING SETTLERS ALLOWED WEST OF THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO PROBLEMS WITH KING GEORGE III'S PROCLAMATION:

1. I WANT A FARM BY THE OHIO RIVER! ENGLAND CAN'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO!!

2. BRITAIN WANTS AMERICANS TO PAY FOR SOLDIERS TO DEFEND THE COLONIES.

WHY I CAN'T PAY THIS! IT'S TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION. ANYONE WANT TO GUESS WHERE THIS IS GOING TO LEAD BY JULY 4, 1776?
In 1756, Britain sends more men to the French and Indian War. They spend to win...

I will get colonists to pay for the war since we have been protecting them.

The Sugar Tax 1764
This is the first time Britain taxes all the colonies to raise money directly for the crown.

Whoa! Britain has left us alone for years! We have our own political assemblies to tax us! You are making this British tea mighty bitter.

The Stamp Act 1765
Newspapers, legal deeds, and even playing cards are taxed. This is the first British tax on colonists that Americans have to pay for themselves.

Hey! We do not get to send colonists to debate this in Britain's Parliament! Taxation without representation! We refuse to buy all British goods.

John Stuart Act 1767
A tax on paper, printers, lead, glass, and tea. The money will pay the salaries of royal officials working in the colonies.

But we pay salaries of royal officials working here! That gives us some power over them. Now we have no way to punish bad officials. Are you trying to enslave us?

Fine! We will end all the taxes... except the one on tea.

Next: Time
Chester the Crab: French & Indian War

1. According the cartoon, how long have the French & English been fighting each other?

2. Who is the leader of the troops in the cartoon? What year it is?

3. Why did the fight at Fort Duquesne begin?

4. What happens to the British during the attack at Fort Duquesne?

5. What mistake does the French make here?

6. What is the key to France's colonies?

7. Why does the French leave Fort Duquesne?

8. Where is the biggest battle? Who wins? Why?

9. When was the treaty signed? What wars did it end?

10. Why was the Proclamation of 1763 passed? What problems does it cause?

11. How does Britain try to make the colonists pay for the war?

12. What is the colonists' response? Why?